

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An interconnecting device for interconnecting communication in a computer network, comprising:

a holding unit for holding an attachable and removable nonvolatile memory;

a reading unit for reading authentication information of said nonvolatile memory and settings for said computer network from said nonvolatile memory held by said holding unit;

an authentication unit for authenticating whether said authentication information read by said reading unit satisfies a predetermined condition; and

a transmitting unit for transmitting said settings to a communication device, which performs communication in said computer network, in order to perform communication settings of said computer network based on said settings read by said reading unit when said authentication information satisfies said predetermined condition.

2. An interconnecting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said nonvolatile memory further has a decoder that stores encoded said settings and decodes said settings read by said reading unit.

3. An interconnecting device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a setting unit that performs communication settings of the interconnecting device based on said settings read by said reading unit.

4. An interconnecting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transmitting unit transmits said settings read by said reading unit to other interconnecting devices in order to perform

communication settings of said other interconnecting device.

5. An interconnecting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transmitting unit transmits said settings read by said reading unit to a management apparatus that manages said computer network in order to perform communication settings of said computer network by said management apparatus.

6. An interconnecting device as claimed in claim 5, further comprising:

a receiving unit for receiving a setting change request signal that requests change of communication settings of the interconnecting device, transmitted by said management apparatus based on said settings; and

a setting unit for performing communication settings of the interconnecting device based on said setting change request signal receipt by said receiving unit.

7. An interconnecting device as claimed in claim 5, wherein:  
said reading unit read VLAN configuration information of said computer network from said nonvolatile memory; and

said transmitting unit transmits said VLAN configuration information to said management apparatus in order to set VLAN configuration of said computer network by said management apparatus.

8. An interconnecting device as claimed in claim 7, wherein:  
said receiving unit receives a VLAN setting change request signal that requests change of VLAN setting of the interconnecting device, transmitted by said management apparatus based on said VLAN configuration information; and

said setting unit performs VLAN setting of the interconnecting device based on said VLAN setting change request signal received by said receiving unit.

9. An interconnecting device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a storage unit for storing device-identification-information of at least one communication device that is permitted to communicate with the interconnecting device; and

a communication controller for restricting said communication device that is permitted to communicate with the interconnecting device based on said device-identification-information stored in said storage unit.

10. An interconnecting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein said communication controller does not restrict said communication device that is permitted to communicate with the interconnecting device when said holding unit holds said nonvolatile memory.

11. A communication setting program used for an interconnecting device that performs communication settings of a computer network; comprising:

a reading module for reading authentication information of an attachable and removable nonvolatile memory and settings for said computer network from said nonvolatile memory;

an authentication module for authenticating whether said authentication information read by said reading module satisfies a predetermined condition; and

a transmitting module for transmitting said settings to a

communication device, which performs communication in said computer network, in order to perform communication settings of said computer network based on said settings read by said reading module when said authentication information satisfies said predetermined condition.

12. A communication setting program as claimed in claim 11, wherein said transmitting module transmits said settings read by said reading module to other interconnecting devices in order to perform communication settings of said other interconnecting devices.

13. A communication setting program as claimed in claim 12, wherein said transmitting module transmits said settings to said management apparatus in order to perform communication settings of said computer network by said management apparatus that manages said computer network.

14. A method for setting the communication of a computer network by an interconnecting device that interconnects communication in said computer network, comprising:

- holding an attachable and removable nonvolatile memory;
- reading authentication information of said nonvolatile memory and settings for said computer network from said held nonvolatile memory;

- authenticating whether said read authentication information satisfies a predetermined condition; and

- transmitting said settings to a communication device, which performs communication in said computer network, in order to perform communication setting of said computer network based on said read settings when said authentication information

satisfies said predetermined condition.